

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.

As below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship is as stated below next to my name.

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole or joint inventor (if plural, inventors are named below) of the invention entitled:

ASSEMBLY FOR CONTROLLING A STOPPER BELONGING TO A CONTINUOUS CASTING INSTALLATION,
AND CORRESPONDING CONTINUOUS CASTING INSTALLATION

the specifications and drawings of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as
Application Serial No. _____
was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understood the contents of the above identified specification and drawings, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is known to be material to the examination of this application to the Patent Office in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

I hereby state that I do not know and do not believe that the invention which is the content of the above specification, claims and drawings was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof, or the patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one (1) year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one (1) year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of the inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve (12) months prior to this application; and as to applications for patents or inventor's certificate on the invention filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representative or assigns.

☐ no such applications have been filed, or

☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION

| COUNTRY CLAIMED | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING (DAY, MO., YR.) | DATE OF ISSUE (DAY, MO., YR.) | PRIORITY UNDER 35 USC 119 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| FRANCE | 02 15290 | 04/12/2002 | | YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |

ALL FOREIGN APPLICATIONS, IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION

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POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the attorney(s) and/or agent(s) listed below to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.
The undersigned hereby authorizes the U.S. attorney or agent named herein to accept and follow instructions from CABINET LAVOIX-LYON as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorney or agent and the undersigned. In the event of a change in the person's from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorney or agent named herein will be so notified by the undersigned.

RALPH A. DOWELL REG.NO. (26,868)

A. YATES DOWELL, III REG.NO. (28,070)

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS AND SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

DOWELL & DOWELL, P. C.

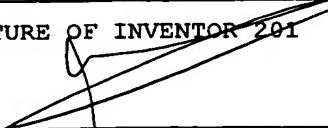

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| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|
| 201 | FULL NAME OF INVENTOR | FAMILY NAME DUSSUD | FIRST GIVEN NAME Michel | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
| | RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP | CITY SAINT MARTIN EN HAUT | STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY FRANCE | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP FRANCE |
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| 202 | FULL NAME OF INVENTOR | FAMILY NAME SIMONNIN | FIRST GIVEN NAME Patrick | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
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| 203 | FULL NAME OF INVENTOR | FAMILY NAME | FIRST GIVEN NAME | SECOND GIVEN NAME |
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| | POST OFFICE ADDRESS | POST OFFICE ADDRESS | CITY | STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY |

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

| | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201  | SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202  | SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203 |
| DATE 11/18/2003 | DATE 11/18/2003 | DATE |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

TITLE:

SERIAL NO:

FILED:

EXAMINER:

GROUP:

VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS

[] FOR INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I am an independent inventor who (1) has not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and (2) is under no obligation under contract or law, to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention, to any person who could not likewise be classified as an independent inventor if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern or a nonprofit organization, as defined in 37 CFR 1.9.

[] FOR SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that _____ is a business concern which qualifies as a small business concern as defined in §1.9(d) - namely, (1) whose number of employees, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons; and (2) which has not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and is under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern or a nonprofit organization under this section; and that the exclusive rights to the invention have been conveyed to and remain with the above-identified small business concern.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful, false statements and the like, so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the patent application or any patent issuing thereon.

INVENTORS:

DUSSUD Michel

Name

Date

11/18/2003

SIMONNIN Patrick

Name

Date

11/18/2003

0802a/11

SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN:

By:

Name:

Title:

Date:

SIMONNIN

Chief Executive

11/18/2003

By:

Name:

Title:

Date: